

Collection #
M 1057
OM 0525

**DR. MORRIS C. THOMAS AND ANNA HAWKINS THOMAS
PAPERS, 1897-1999**

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

Maire Gurevitz
July 2013

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 7 manuscript boxes, 3 cubic foot boxes, 4 folders black and white photographs, 2 folders color photographs, 1 oversized manuscript folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1897-1999

PROVENANCE: Patricia B. Valentine, Charlottesville, VA

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999.0553

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dr. Morris Caplinger Thomas (1905-December 12, 1979) was born to Raymond D. Thomas and Delilah Caplinger Thomas in Danville, Indiana. Dr. Thomas was a graduate of Wabash College and Indiana University Medical School. He served as a physician at the Sunnyside Sanatorium in Indianapolis, Indiana. In addition, he served as a Colonel in the Army Medical Reserves in the European theater during World War II. After his service in the war, he finished his career as a physician with thirty years of service to the Veteran's Administration. Dr. Thomas was also a member of the Kiwanis Club, Alpha Omega Alpha, Recording for the Blind, the American College of Hospital Administrators, and the First United Methodist Church.

Anna Hawkins Thomas (February 19, 1905-March 11, 1999) was born on a farm in Castleton, Marion County, Indiana. She attended Castleton High School and met Morris Thomas because they attended the same church in Broad Ripple, Indianapolis, Indiana. Anna Hawkins Thomas graduated from Butler University in 1928 with a degree in English. She and Dr. Morris Thomas were married on May 10, 1931. They had a daughter, Judith, and they both wrote a diary entry, most days of their lives.

Sources:

Materials in the collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists mostly of diaries, which were kept by both Dr. Thomas and Anna Thomas. Dr. Thomas began his diaries in 1922 when he was in high school, and chronicled his life yearly until his death in 1979. His entries are generally just a few sentences and discuss the weather, his main work activities, and the time he retired for the evening. Anna Thomas has a diary for 1926, but does not pick up the habit of journaling again until 1930. From then on, she chronicled the events of the day until her death in 1999. She writes about her routines of chores, cooking, getting her hair set at the beauty parlor, church, social clubs, and time spent with her family and friends.

Dr. Thomas served in the European theatre in World War II, and this collection contains the correspondence between he and his wife while he was away. Additionally, his correspondence to Anna, during the years he was a student and then young doctor can be found in this collection as well.

Also found in this collection are yearbooks and memorabilia from the couples school days at Butler, Wabash, and Indiana University, a few family photographs, and some letters for the couple from their daughter, Judith.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Anna Hawkins Thomas Materials

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Savings Account Record, Indiana Trust Company, 1912	Box 1, Folder 1
Report Cards, 1921-27	Box 1, Folder 2
Castleton High School Materials, 1924-25	Box 1, Folder 3
Correspondence, 1925-33	Box 1, Folder 4
Diary, 1926	Box 1, Folder 5
Yearbook, The Drift, Butler University, 1927	Box 1, Folder 6
Butler University Handbook, 1927-28	Box 1, Folder 7
Butler University Collegian, 8 June 1928	OM 0525, Folder 1
Butler University, Commencement Materials, 1928	Box 1, Folder 8
Yearbook, The Drift, Butler University, 1928	Box 1, Folder 9
Wedding Invitation and Card, 1931	Box 1, Folder 10
Diaries, 1930-68	Box 8
Certificate, Psi Iota Xi Sorority, 1935	Box 1, Folder 11
Correspondence, July 1944	Box 1, Folder 12
Correspondence, August 1944	Box 1, Folder 13
Correspondence, September 1944	Box 1, Folder 14
Correspondence, October 1944	Box 2, Folder 1
Correspondence, November 1944	Box 2, Folder 2
Correspondence, December 1944	Box 2, Folder 3
Correspondence, January 1945	Box 2, Folder 4
Correspondence, February 1945	Box 2, Folder 5

Correspondence, March 1945	Box 2, Folder 6
Correspondence, April 1945	Box 2, Folder 7
Correspondence, May 1945	Box 2, Folder 8
Correspondence, June-July 1945	Box 2, Folder 9
Diaries, 1969-1999	Box 9
Christmas Greeting Letters, 1997-98	Box 2, Folder 10
Memorials, 1999	Box 2, Folder 11

Series 2: Dr. Morris C. Thomas Materials

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Diary, 1922	Box 2, Folder 12
Yearbook, The Floravian, 1923	Box 2, Folder 13
Diary, 1923	Box 2, Folder 14
Diary, 1924	Box 2, Folder 15
Yearbook, The Flora Paradeisos, 1924	Box 2, Folder 16
Yearbook, Wabash College, 1924	Box 2, Folder 17
Diary, 1925	Box 3, Folder 1
Program, Crawfordsville High School Alumni Banquet, 1925	Box 3, Folder 2
Yearbook, Wabash College, 1925	Box 3, Folder 3
Diary, 1926	Box 3, Folder 4
Yearbook, Wabash College, 1926	Box 3, Folder 5
Diary, 1927	Box 3, Folder 6
Yearbook, Wabash College, 1927	Box 3, Folder 7
Yearbook, The Arbutus, Indiana University, 1927	Box 4, Folder 1
Correspondence, 1927-28 (1 of 2)	Box 4, Folder 2

Correspondence, 1927-28 (2 of 2)	Box 4, Folder 3
Diary, 1928	Box 4, Folder 4
Correspondence, 1929 (1 of 3)	Box 4, Folder 5
Correspondence, 1929 (2 of 3)	Box 4, Folder 6
Correspondence, 1929 (3 of 3)	Box 4, Folder 7
Diary, 1929	Box 4, Folder 8
Clippings, ca. 1930-40s	Box 4, Folder 9
Program, Indiana University, 1930	Box 4, Folder 10
Program, Indiana University Commencement, 1930	Box 5, Folder 1
Yearbook, The Arbutus, Indiana University, 1930	Box 5, Folder 2
Correspondence, 1930-31 (1 of 2)	Box 5, Folder 3
Correspondence, 1930-31 (2 of 2)	Box 5, Folder 4
Diary, 1930-34	Box 5, Folder 5
Correspondence, 1932	Box 5, Folder 6
Diaries, 1935-45	Box 10
Newsletter, The Sunnyside Rainbow, 1937-38	Box 6, Folder 1
Correspondence, ca. 1940s	Box 6, Folder 2
Correspondence, July-August 1944	Box 6, Folder 3
Correspondence, September 1944	Box 6, Folder 4
Correspondence, October 1944	Box 6, Folder 5
Correspondence, November 1944	Box 6, Folder 6
Correspondence, December 1944	Box 6, Folder 7
Correspondence, January 1945	Box 6, Folder 8
Correspondence, February 1945	Box 6, Folder 9
Correspondence, March 1945	Box 6, Folder 10

Correspondence, April 1945	Box 6, Folder 11
Correspondence, May 1945	Box 6, Folder 12
Correspondence, June 1945	Box 6, Folder 13
Correspondence, July 1945	Box 6, Folder 14
Correspondence, September 1945	Box 6, Folder 15
Correspondence, October 1945	Box 6, Folder 16
Correspondence, November-December 1945	Box 6, Folder 17
Diary, 1946 (1 of 2)	Box 7, Folder 1
Diary, 1946 (2 of 2)	Box 7, Folder 2
Diaries, 1947-79	Box 10
Medical Examination Report, 1955	Box 7, Folder 3
Souvenir Booklet, Flora Indiana Centennial, 1972	Box 7, Folder 4
Program, Veterans Administration Hospital, Madison, WI, 25th Anniversary, 1976	Box 7, Folder 5

Series 3: Judith Thomas Limpel and Miscellaneous

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Portrait, Dora Caplinger, n.d.	Photographs, Folder 1
Snapshot, Stephen Audrijui, n.d.	Color Photographs, Folder 1
Unidentified Photographs, n.d.	Photographs, Folder 2
Autograph Album, Delila Caplinger, 1897-98	Box 7, Folder 12
Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Ward at their home in Florida, 1927	Photographs, Folder 3
Correspondence, Judith Thomas Limpel ca. 1930s-56	Box 7, Folder 6
Cocker Spaniel Pedigree Chart, 1939	Box 7, Folder 7

Portrait, Judith Thomas Limpel, ca. 1940s	Photographs, Folder 4
Yearbook, The Eagle, Fort Knox Independent Schools, 1944	Box 7, Folder 8
Correspondence, Judith Thomas Limpel, May-June 1957	Box 7, Folder 9
Correspondence, Judith Thomas Limpel, July-November 1957	Box 7, Folder 10
Correspondence, Judith Thomas Limpel, 1958	Box 7, Folder 11
Anna Hawkins Thomas and the Rees Children, 1998	Color Photographs, Folder 2

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 1057).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.